



**Alexandra Park Primary School**  
*Care, Aspire, Achieve*

## Friday 3rd March 2023

If I had to choose one photograph to encapsulate what our school is about, it is this one taken on World Book Day. I think increasingly the value of World Book Day has been overshadowed by a focus on purely dressing up. I loved that the children, parents and my colleagues used this day as an opportunity to demonstrate our school's main value of Care. Thank you to everyone who donated books. These books will transform the library of the school in Gambia where we are sending them to and provide lots of children with an opportunity to develop a love of reading. Thank you and well done all. I would also like to say a special thank you to Miss Erskine, a member of our reception team, whose hard work and care created this opportunity.



## **Reception**

In Reception this week, we have started our new topic on 'Explorers' and the children have been learning about Africa and talking about similarities and differences between life in Africa and the UK. This linked in really well with World Book Day. Miss Erskine talked to the children about Gambia and we were very impressed with how passionate the children were about donating their books to help other children.

During World Book Day we really enjoyed sharing stories with Year 3 for our Paired Read. It was great to see the children interacting and supporting each other.



## **Year 1**

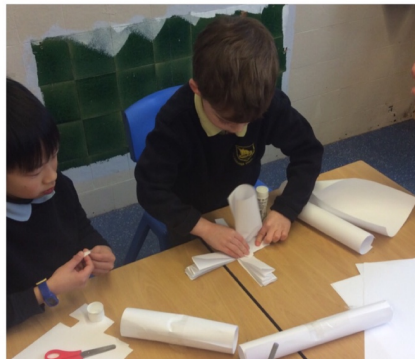
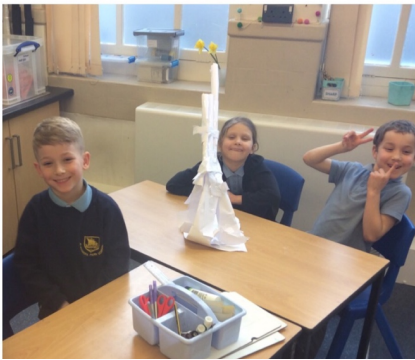
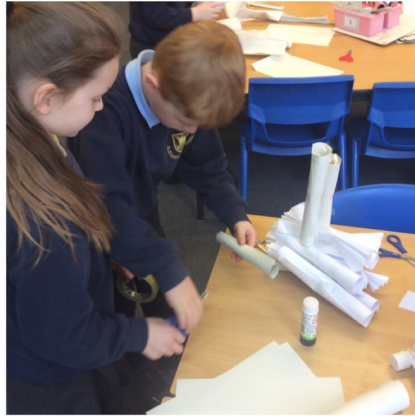
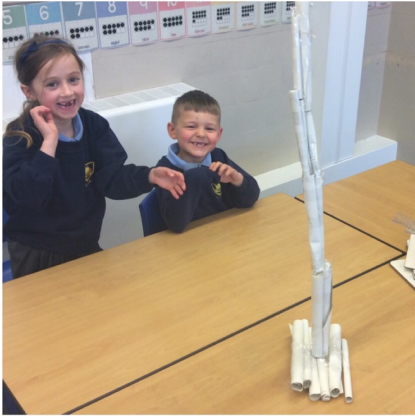
In History, we explored and investigated toys from the past. Old toys were kindly brought in and we used key questions to discuss the significant features of the toys. We began to compare the similarities and differences to toys that we have in the present.





## Year 2

In Design and Technology this week we have started to look at free-standing structures. We researched and discussed what makes structures stable and strong and had a competition to see who could build the tallest structure from paper and sellotape. There was some fantastic collaboration and creativity, which resulted in some impressive structures!



To celebrate World Book Day, we started off the day by learning some tips and tricks to use while choosing a book to help us pick one that we might like. Then, we got out all of the books from our class reading corner and carefully chose a new book to try. As you can see, a lot of the books went down a treat - even at playtime! We also teamed up with some reading buddies from Year 5 and 6 and listened to their amazing story-telling skills. We loved listening to their stories, and some of us even had a go at reading to the older children, who were very impressed!



## Star of the Week

Usually we have an assembly on Mondays where we discuss the focus for the week. For example: pride, independence, or helping others. Teachers often then choose their Star of the Week based on this focus. Our assembly this week was on World Book Day and how we can help the children in Gambia. Potentially this created a broader range of reasons children were chosen for Star of the Week but interestingly a vast majority of children were chosen in recognition of the extra effort they have made and the impact this has had on their learning. Well done all!



## Important Dates

- Stay and Read for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children and parents will continue on Thursday mornings 8.40 to 9.10am
- School breaks up for half term on Friday 31st March
- School reopens on Tuesday 18th April
- Parents evenings **8th and 9th March**
- Closing date for Nursery applications **Friday 31st March**